

meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 3, 1997, at 10:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold a hearing on: "Closing The Legal Loophole for Union Violence."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a Hearing on Tobacco Settlement during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 3, 1997, at 10:00 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM, AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 3, 1997, at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Office Building, on: "The Encryption Debate: Criminals, Terrorists and the Security Needs of Business and Industry."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VETERANS MORTGAGES

• Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, during my tenure as Administrator of the Veterans, Administration a "fall back and rescue" plan was formulated to be of assistance to those veterans with VA guaranteed mortgages which might be burdensome.

The proposal which later became a VA regulation is now, as then, referred to as IRRRL which stands for interest rate reduction refinancing loan.

Many thousands of eligible veterans have already benefited from this legislation during the past 17 years of its existence and the VA personnel involved deserve many thanks for their dedicated interest and help.

My concern is not with the legislation or the Department of Veterans Affairs, but rather with the seeming reluctance of many in the mortgage industry to take a more active posture with regard to its implementation.

I have been told by those who are in the know that the numbers of interested lenders is very small in comparison to the need.

I call upon those companies who service GI mortgage loans to be more receptive and to make known throughout the veterans community the existence of these mortgage "lifelines."

The main features of the IRRRL are the following: First, in most cases the interest rate will be lower, and the payment will be lower. Documentation is at a minimum and no credit evaluation is done; second, refinancing can be

done if the mortgagee is less than 2½ months behind in their payments; and third, the veteran can add up to \$6,000.00 to the mortgage for energy efficient improvements, for example, air conditioning, heating systems, insulation, storm door and windows.

In closing, I also encourage Secretary designate Hershel Gober to intensify the VA's efforts to communicate to veterans information on this very vital and viable tool which is available to them. Further, I hope to enlist in the same effort the extremely valuable services of my good friend, former VA Secretary Jesse Brown, whose knowledge and dedication to veterans is unquestioned. •

HONORING THE EMPLOYEES OF CARL F. BOOTH & CO., INC.

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the employees of Carl F. Booth & Co., Inc., in New Albany, IN. Each of the company's 44 employees helped construct the wooden case which holds the Declaration of Independence and the Gettysburg Address in the newly renovated Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress.

Carl Booth & Co., which produces custom plywood, specializes in providing interior plywood for jets and airplanes. The company has produced plywood for numerous corporate and celebrity jets and Air Force One.

Under the leadership of Carl Booth, the employees of the Indiana wood-working company displayed great dedication and enthusiasm in working on the plywood for the case, which took over 500 man-hours to produce.

We are honored to have such fine workmanship to hold the Declaration of Independence and the Gettysburg Address, two important documents in the history of America. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the employees of Carl Booth & Co. for their contribution to this important project. •

RECOGNITION OF MAYOR BRENDA BARGER OF WATERTOWN, SD

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity today to recognize the important work of Mayor Brenda Barger in leading the residents of Watertown, SD, through winter storms and flooding.

Early this year, residents of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota experienced relentless snowstorms and bitterly cold temperatures. Snowdrifts as high as buildings, roads with only one lane cleared, homes without heat for days, hundreds of thousands of dead livestock, and schools closed for a week at a time were commonplace. As if surviving the severe winter cold was not challenge enough, residents of the Upper Midwest could hardly imagine the extent of damage Mother Nature had yet to inflict with a 500-year flood.

Record levels on the Big Sioux River and Lake Kampeska forced over 5,000

residents of Watertown, SD, to evacuate their homes and left over one-third of the city without sewer and water for 3 weeks. The headline of the Watertown Public Opinion on April 6 read "Watertown in Peril," and I will never forget the image of homeowners and neighbors, shrouded in a late-season snow storm, sandbagging against the rising waters of the Big Sioux River and Lake Kampeska.

Brenda Barger held Watertown together with her strength and direction. Some 6 weeks prior to major flooding which began on April 4, Mayor Barger initiated efforts to try and minimize the impact of the impending disaster. Mayor Barger brought together local and county officials, volunteer agencies including the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and others, to brainstorm and compile resource lists of expected needs including equipment, people, and funds.

Despite careful planning, on April 5, an unexpected blizzard hit the State, devastating the area. Everything froze, creating further concerns about what was going to happen once the water began flowing again. Mayor Barger camped out in the city's impromptu crisis center around the clock and helped to direct the efforts of a number of local volunteers, prisoners, and National Guard personnel. Mother Nature caused Mayor Barger to make a number of difficult decisions immediately following the April storm, including ordering the evacuation of nearly 5,000 residents, or one-fourth the population, of Watertown and the shutdown of the water treatment plant at Lake Kampeska. In the following days, Mayor Barger secured over 750 portapotties and deployed them on the lawns of those families who could return to their homes. Water trucks were brought in to provide people with a fresh water supply, and Mayor Barger oversaw repairs to the water treatment plant which were completed ahead of schedule.

While those of us from the Midwest will never forget the destruction wrought by this year's floods, I have been heartened to witness first-hand and hear accounts of South Dakotans coming together within their community to protect homes, farms, and entire towns from rising flood waters. Mayor Brenda Barger truly exemplifies the role of a public servant, who, in the face of unimaginable natural destruction, placed the needs of an entire community ahead of personal concern. Now, Mayor Barger is spearheading efforts by Watertown residents to fully repair the damage from this past year and plan for future emergencies.

Mr. President, there is much more to be done to rebuild and repair impacted communities. Mayor Brenda Barger illustrates how the actions of an individual can bring some relief to the victims of this natural disaster. I ask you to join me in thanking her for her selfless efforts and congratulate her on being

recognized during the National Association of Towns and Townships convention in Washington, DC, this week.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. T.A. TAYLOR-HUNT

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a very special native of Philadelphia upon her retirement from the U.S. Air Force. This extraordinary woman, Maj. T.A. Taylor-Hunt, has served her country and her community with grace and distinction.

To say that T.A. has had an exemplary military career is an understatement. Her promise as an officer was evident when she received an American Spirit Honor Medal upon graduation from basic training. After completing technical school at Shepard AFB, she began a career in accounting and finance at Dover AFB, with follow-on assignments that took her around the world. At the Strategic Air Command NCO Academy, she was recognized as an Honor Graduate, Distinguished Graduate, Commandant's Award winner, Academic Champion, and Flight Speech Champion. She was the first person in the 25 year history of the Academy to receive so many awards. Likewise, T.A. received an Instructor's Abilities Award at NCO Leadership School as well as the Officer's Training School Flight Academic Achievement Award. As a comptroller, T.A. played a critical role in the financial operations of Operation Desert Storm. In Europe, she helped to establish an Army medical unit in the former Yugoslavia. At the time of her retirement, she was the Deputy Chief of Wartime / Contingency Planning at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Denver Center.

I would also note that Major Taylor-Hunt graduated summa cum laude from the University of Maryland, and she received her masters degree with distinction from Webster University. Currently, she is attending the University of Denver College of Law.

In addition to the awards I mentioned earlier, Major Taylor-Hunt has received numerous other commendations for her military performance, as well as her extensive community service. Her military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Outstanding Unit Award, and the Air Force Special Recognition Ribbon. Some of her other awards include the 1988 Delegate of the Year for the Coastal Charter Chapter American Business Women's Association, the Federal Women's Program Military Officer of the Year, a Community Service Award for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and inclusion in the 1996 Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.

Mr. President, given T.A.'s tireless efforts to help the less fortunate, it is clear that the recognition she received has been well deserved. Her business card describes the way she lives her life. The inscription reads, "Take Care

of Others, God Will Take Care of You." And take care of others she has. T.A. devotes a substantial number of hours each week soliciting, collecting, sorting, and distributing donations to the homeless, without the assistance of staff. She not only meets the basic needs of homeless families such as food and clothing, but she also works to correct their credit problems so that they can find permanent housing. Likewise, T.A. volunteers at several shelters, delivers Meals-On-Wheels, and tutors a fourth grade student.

I am proud to say that Major Taylor-Hunt's compassion has been contagious. What started as an effort to help one family living in a school bus has grown into an extensive support network spanning the Denver metropolitan region. Through her leadership, families have found homes; furniture has been donated; hungry people are being fed; children are receiving decent school clothes; and holiday meals and gifts are donated regularly.

In closing, Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Maj. T.A. Taylor-Hunt and in extending the Senate's best wishes to her family.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ONEONTA YANKEES

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, the major league baseball season does not end for another month, but today is the end of the regular season of the New York Penn short-season A League.

I am very proud to congratulate two teams for making the playoffs, the Batavia Clippers and, closer to my home in Pindars Corners, the Oneonta Yankees. Oneonta is this year's winner of the New York Penn's Pickney Division, with the second best record in the league. Led by hitting stars such as third baseman Alan Butler and catcher/designated hitter Rene Pinto, behind the pitching of Scott Wiggins and Zach Day, and with the support of the rest of the team which played outstanding baseball this year, the Oneonta Yankees had their best season in 7 years and are going to the playoffs for the first time since 1990.

The Oneonta Yankees have a tradition of success and excellence, having won the New York Penn league title 11 times in their 30 years of existence. The team has been affiliated with the world champion New York Yankees for longer than any other minor-league club in the Yankee organization. Several of today's Yankee stars, including Bernie Williams and Andy Pettitte, began their careers in Oneonta. Don Mattingly—affectionately referred to by the cognoscenti as "Donnie Baseball"—whose number 23 was just retired at a ceremony at Yankee Stadium this past weekend, also played for the Oneonta Yankees.

As the season ends and the playoffs begin, I want to extend my congratulations to Sam Nader, team owner; Joe Arnold, team manager; and the entire Oneonta Yankees team. I also want to

wish them and the Batavia Clippers the best of luck in the post season.●

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN B. TURE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, It is with great sadness that I rise today to mark the passing of Dr. Norman B. Ture, President of the Institute for Research on the Economics of Taxation and one of the principal architects of supply side economics.

Dr. Ture was a man of principle. He was convinced, and he convinced many others, that public policy must be guided by respect for individual freedom and property rights, reliance on personal responsibility and integrity, and faith in the free market as the means for ordering economic activity. His brilliant economic analysis helped show that increasing marginal income tax rates lower productivity by skewing people's choices away from work and toward leisure activities. He was a major architect of the Reagan tax cuts of the early 1980's, serving as Undersecretary for Tax and Economic Affairs in the Reagan Treasury Department from 1981 to 1982. Less noticed, however, was his significant role in putting together the Kennedy tax cuts of 1963. Whether on a committee staff, in the executive branch or as an independent researcher, Dr. Ture devoted his career to increasing Americans' standards of living by making taxes less onerous.

Dr. Ture also fought to convince public policy makers of the need to make taxes more visible. Hidden taxes on investments and estates, overly broad definitions of income, and onerous regulations that allow government to control economic activities in his view act as drags on the economy and obscure the real costs of government. These policies, Dr. Ture showed, unfairly make government interference in our economic life appear cheap or even cost free. They thereby encourage people to accept more regulation than is in their financial interest, and to give up more of their freedom than they should.

Dr. Ture passed away on August 10. He had fought off lung cancer but finally was felled by cancer of the pancreas. He is survived by his wife, six children, and two grandchildren. I know our thoughts and prayers go out to all Dr. Ture's family in this time of great sorrow.

It is some consolation, however, that we will soon see Dr. Ture's last report. Soon before he died, Dr. Ture finished work on a paper laying out a clean, unbiased, highly visible tax system that would let the people see the price of government and make an informed decision as to how much of it they are willing to pay for. I look forward to the fruitful debate Dr. Ture's final work will no doubt produce.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOAB LESESNE

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Joab Lesesne, a great educator and South Carolinian.